

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 55-72 will be active upon entry of this Amendment. Base claims 55 and 60 have been amended to further describe an alkaline specimen buffer and to clarify that the contacting step occurs within the range of pH 9 to pH 10. As discussed, optional components of the specimen buffer have been described at the end of these claims and new dependent claims referring to these components added. No new matter is believed to have been added. The Applicants refer to the arguments submitted in their Amendment filed September 23, 2010, which authorizes cancellation of composition claims 36-54. That Amendment should also be entered. Favorable consideration of this amendment and allowance of this case are respectfully requested.

Interview Summary Record

On November 3, 2010 Examiner Li and the Applicant's representative discussed clarifications to the claims which would likely place them in condition for allowance. The Examiner provided the Applicants with a draft claim illustrating suggested revisions which amend base claims 55 and 60 to refer to an alkaline specimen buffer, as well as optional components for this buffer, and which includes language further clarifying that the contacting step occurs in the range of pH 9 to pH 10. It was also indicated that the Applicants could submit new dependent claims reciting the optional components described in the base claims, e.g., an animal globulin or surfactant. Examiner Li requested that the Applicants file a Supplemental Amendment to facilitate entry of these amendments.

Conclusion

This application presents allowable subject matter and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass it to issue. The Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned should a further discussion of the issues or claims be helpful.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Cunningham", is written over a horizontal line.

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